

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

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L SORLINS

-----063376 082324Z /64 L
R 080449Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

S E C R E T STATE 172782

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS:PINS, SHUM, RP

SUBJECT: MARCOS EXPLAINS INTERNAL SECURITY CONCERNS

REF: MANILA 11266, STATE 67001

1. WITH REFERENCE TO MARCOS COMMENT IN PARA 10, REF A
THAT QUOTE WE MUST AGREE TO REMOVE FROM THE MILITARY AGREE-
MENTS A PROHIBITION AGAINST THE GOP BUYING ARMS FROM OTHER
SOURCES, END QUOTE, THE USG POSITION ON THAT SUBJECT IS
CONTAINED IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR COMPENSATION OFFER IN PAR
3B, REF B. THE POSITION WE HAVE ALREADY CONVEYED TO THE
GOP IS QUOTE WE COULD, IF NECESSARY, SEEK TO AMEND THE
1953 MUTUAL DEFENSE ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT TO ELIMINATE THE
PROVISION ABOUT THIRD COUNTRY PROCUREMENT, WHICH PLACES
RESTRAINTS UPON FREEDOM OF ACTION BY GOP. THE USG COULD
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NOT, OF COURSE, FINANCE FROM THIRD COUNTRIES. WE PREFER
THAT THE GOP PURCHASE US EQUIPMENT FOR PURPOSES OF COMPAT-
ABILITY AND SUPPORTABILITY, END QUOTE.

2. IF YOU THINK IT WOULD ASSIST US TO OBTAIN MARCOS SUP-
PORT ON KEY BASE ISSUES OR OTHERWISE STRENGTHEN YOUR
POSITION IN DEALING WITH HIM, YOU MIGHT AT A PROPITIOUS

MOMENT, WISH TO PROPOSE PROCEEDING WITH AN EXCHANGE OF
NOTES, APART FROM THE BASE TALKS THEMSELVES, WHICH WOULD

ELIMINATE THIS PROVISION. ADVISE US IF YOU BELIEVE THIS
WOULD BE DESIRABLE SO THAT WE MAY OBTAIN NECESSARY
CIRCULAR 175 AUTHORITY. VANCE

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NNN

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